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**Inventory For  
Manuscript Collection  
MS-406**

**Capt. Israel D. Snow Papers  
Inclusive dates: 1880-1894  
Bulk Dates 1881-1890**

by  
Anastasia S. Weigle  
November 2012

Shelf feet: 0.25  
Number of boxes: 1  
Accession No. 79.143

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## Abstract

### **Snow, Israel D. (Dade), *Captain* (1863-1928)**

Papers, 1880-1894 (Bulk dates: 1881-1890)

1 Manuscript size box (.25 linear feet)

Ship builder, ship owner and shipmaster from Rockland, Maine.

Account books for schooners *Victory*, *Luella A. Snow* and *Jenny Greenbank* owned and operated by the Snow shipyards in Rockland, Maine. Account books include disbursements, some crewman wages, slop accounts, cargo information and a Captain's log aboard the schooner *Luella A. Snow*.

Donated by Charles E. Burden.

MS-406, Accession No. 79.143.

Related material available at repository, MS-222.

Finding aid available in repository, item level control.

### **Added Entries—person:**

Snow, Israel D. (Dade), *Captain*

Snow, John I., *Captain*

Snow, Willis, *Captain*

### **Added Entries—corporate bodies (including vessels):**

I. L. Snow & Co.

*Jenny Greenbank* (Schooner)

*Luella A. Snow* (Schooner)

Snow, Pearsons & Co.

*Victory* (Schooner)

### **Added entries—places:**

Rockland (ME)

### **Added entries—key terms:**

Account books

Accounts

Coasts—Maine

Coastwise shipping

Lime industry

Schooners

Shipbuilders

Wages

## Acquisition

Papers of Capt. Israel D. Snow were donated by Charles E. Burden on December 17, 1979, accession nos. 79.143.01, 79.143.02 and 79.143.03. This was part of a large collection of unrelated maritime papers and objects.

## Provenance

There is no known provenance on the account books.

## Restrictions

There are no restrictions on the use of these materials for study or research.

## Physical Condition

The account books are in fair to good condition. Each account book measures 16.5 cm by 20.5 cm with a leather spine and marble paper cover boards. The account book for the schooner *Jenny Greenbank* and schooner *Luella A. Snow* has a few pages torn out, as does the account book for the schooner *Victory*. The account books have been placed in four-fold enclosures and housed in acid free archival folders.

## Processing Notes

There are only three account books in the collection and the date's overlap for the schooners *Victory* and *Luella A. Snow*. (i.e. 1880-84 for *Victory* and *Luella A. Snow*, 1880-94 for *Victory*, and 1881-83 for *Luella A. Snow*). The books have been arranged in chronological order by the first year listed (ex: 1880-84, 1880-94, 1881-83).

## Biographical Notes

### **Captain Israel D. (Dade) Snow (b. 1863-d. 1928)**

Captain Israel D. (Dade) Snow, son of Captain Israel Larken Snow (1829-1899) and Luella Austin Keating (1838-1920), was born on March 4, 1863 in Rockland, Maine. Capt. I. D. Snow came from a long line of seafaring men. His great-great grandfather, Capt. Elisha Snow (b. 1739) of Wessaweskeag in South Thomaston, Maine, launched some of the first ships in that area. His great grandfather, Capt. Robert Snow, commanded the schooner *Barbados*. Sadly, Capt. Robert Snow died of yellow fever while aboard the schooner *Barbados* in 1803. His grandfather, Capt. Israel Snow I, began the Snow shipyard business back in 1862.

For clarity of lineage, below is list of the Snow men:

Capt. Elisha Snow, (1745-1826) great-great grandfather  
Capt. Robert Snow, (?-1803) great grandfather, commanded schooner *Barbados*  
Capt. Israel Snow I, (1801-1875), grandfather, began Snow shipyard in 1862  
Capt. Israel Larken Snow, (1829-1899), father  
Capt. Israel Larken "Dade" Snow, (1863-1928), son

Capt. Snow started his seafaring life at a very early age. When he was 15 years old, he was aboard the 13-ton schooner "*Willie*" owned by his family. He was often in the company of Albert F. Pillsbury who would later purchase Capt. Snow's interest in the schooner *Jennie Greenbank* in June of 1882.

Capt. Snow was shipmaster for the schooner *Victory* in 1880. The coastal schooner was built in 1825 in Hampton, New Hampshire. She was a 34 gross ton two-mast schooner measuring 52.3 feet in length, 16.5 feet in breadth and a depth of 5.8 feet. She was considered the oldest vessel on both the east and west coast after WWI. During 1880, Capt. Snow took numerous trips aboard the *Victory* from Rockland to Boston carrying lime. He also voyaged to coastal communities such as Rockland, Isle au Haut, Pemaquid, Calais, Gardiner and Waldoboro with cargo such as timber and oats.

Capt. Snow left the schooner *Victory* sometime June/July of 1881 to command the schooner *Jennie Greenback*. Initially, Capt. Snow was aboard the *Jenny Greenback* during a trading expedition with his father, Capt. Israel L. Snow, who was command of the schooner. When they arrived to the Florida Keys, his father placed his son in command of the schooner making this Capt. Israel Dade Snow's first deep-sea voyage.

Capt. Snow then took command of the schooner *Luella A. Snow* making trips to the West Indies and Gulf of Mexico. The captain's log tells us that in August of 1883 the schooner *Luella S. Snow* with cargo of timber traveled from Milbridge to Roseau Dominica in the Caribbean arriving there on September 6. The *Luella A. Snow* then voyaged to Orchilla September 21 bringing aboard 19 loads of guano. It left for Portsmouth, New Hampshire on the 25<sup>th</sup> and arrived there October 19. After unloading the guano, she made her way up to Maine on October 30 passing Cape Elizabeth and arriving at Rockland that evening. Records show that the schooner *Luella A. Snow* also headed toward Boston from Maracaibo, Venezuela on December 19, 1884.

The captain's last active command was the schooner *Robert A. Snow* taking several voyages to Dominica Island. It is unknown when he was captain of this schooner, but after 1889 the masters listed were Marston and Pillsbury.

In 1885, Capt. Israel D. Snow, with his father, Capt. Israel Larken Snow and brother Richard K. Snow bought out Henry Pearson's interest in Snow, Pearson & Company renaming business to I. L. Snow and Company. With the shipyard now belonging to the Snow Family, brothers Willis and John I. Snow took command of the vessels in the Snow Fleet.

In 1899, Capt. Israel D. Snow's father, Israel Larken Snow, died making the Captain and his brother Rickard K. Snow principal owners and officers of the family shipyard in Rockland. Capt. Israel Dade Snow became president and his brother was secretary/treasurer. Although he was very much involved in the seafaring business, he did have time to become mayor of Rockland in 1903 by a large majority. Highly respected he could have easily done a second term but he declined due to the demand of his business.

In October of 1907, Capt. Israel D. Snow was elected director of the Rockland National Bank and Vice President nine years later in 1916. In 1924, after the death of Rockland National Bank president, Arthur S. Littlefield, Capt. Snow was elected President for the unexpired term, which ran until 1925. He also was director of the Rockland Loan & Building Association in 1913 and became president and chairman of the finance committee for the same organization in March of 1922.

Capt. Israel D. Snow married Mary E. Monroe (1863-1922) in 1889. Together they had four children, one son Israel (1892-d?) and three daughters, Eveline F. (1894-?), Francis M. (1896-?) and Kathleen (1899-?). Capt. Snow, having been a widow for five years after the death of his first wife in 1922, remarried on October 8, 1927 to Evelyn S. Young. Sadly he died four months later on February 13, 1928.

## Resources:

- Snow, Bertram G. *The Main Beam: an informal history of documented vessels built at Rockland Maine, from 1795 to 2005*. Rockland, Maine: Rockland Historical Society, 2005.
- Additional information found in supporting documents.

## Scope and Content

The first account book (1880-1884) is for the schooners *Victory* and *Luella S. Snow* has information about their coastal voyages. Information for the *Victory* is dated between July 1880 and July 1882 and lists numerous voyages to Boston with lime as their primary cargo although timber is listed as well. Disbursements regarding the schooner *Luella A. Snow* are dated between June 1882 and May 1884. There are also wages and slop account entries for voyages taken between June and September of 1882 and November 1882 through May 1884. Although a schooner's name is not mentioned here, I believe it is for the *Luella A. Snow*. There are a few loose papers with the account book. This includes some small papers with mathematical calculations, an 8.5" x 11" paper with monetary calculations for wages paid in advance, and a weekly flyer for goods offered from Austin, Nichols & Co. dated 1884.

The second account book (1880-1894) is for the schooner *Victory*. It covers disbursements for trips dated March 18, 1880 up until October 1894. These trips were entirely coastal traveling from Rockland to Boston with lime, grain, oats, and lumber. Other coastal ports are Machias, Gardiner, Dennysville, Rockland, Eastport and Isle au Haut. There were three small loose sheets of papers in this account book. Two are receipts of staple items purchased for the schooner *Luella A. Snow* that include butter, sweet potato, bread, white beans, sugar, butter, powder and old batting dated March 1883. The third sheet has some notes on the trip from Milbridge to Dominica and Orchilla as well as some crewmen names. The date 12/10/83 is written at the top.

Capt. Israel D. Snow commanded the schooner *Victory* between March 1880 and June 1881 and August 2 through 11, 1887. Other captains who took command of her during various trips to Boston and coastal Maine ports with cargos of lime, wood, grain, and general merchandise are listed below:

<b>Captain's Name</b>	<b>Dates aboard schooner <i>Victory</i></b>
Snow, Israel Dade	March 18, 1880—June 22, 1881
Hunt, John F.	September 18—November 28, 1881
Wilson, John	May 8, 1882—July 18, 1884
Norton, Alaric E.	October 18, 1885—November 30, 1885
Snow, Frank H.	October 1886
Norton, Alaric E.	December 14, 1885
Snow, Frank H.	November 6—March 24, 1887
Steele, T. W.	April 23, 1887—?
Strout, B. B.	July 23, 1887
Snow, Israel	August 2—11, 1887
Coffin, C. F.	September 6—November 24, 1887
Snow, Willis	July 5, 1888—November 28, 1888
Norton, A. B.	June 2, 1889—September 1890
Steele, Frank	December 1, 1890
Snow, Willis	December 12, 1890 through January 23, 1891
Dunin[?], Capt. George F.	February 15—June 24, 1891
Snow, John I.	July 20—August 25, 1891
Snow, Willis	September 1891—May 23, 1893
Strout, Ernest	June 9—30, 1893
Stover, C. E.	August 12—October/November 1893
Snow, Willis	November and December 1893
Goodey, Samuel	October 1894
Snow, John I.	July 20—August 25, 1891

The third account book is for the schooners *Jenny Greenbank* (Dec. 1881 to Dec. 1883) and *Luella A. Snow* (Aug—Oct. 1883). The first part is disbursements for a trip to Mexico between March and June 1882, a cargo of fustic (a deciduous tree that is used to make yellow dye), timber and lime. There are a number of pages used as a cargo book. On the flip side of the book is a log-book for the schooner *Luella A. Snow* for a voyage from Milbridge to Roseau Dominica dated August 1883 until October of that same year. The log continues again starting December 1884 at Maracaibo Venezuela until January 1885.

**MS-409 Capt. Israel D. (Dade) Snow Papers Container List**

**Box# Folder#**

1	1	Account book for Schooners <i>Victory</i> (1880-81) and <i>Luella A. Snow</i> (1882-84)
2		Account book, <i>Victory</i> (Schooner), 1880-94
3		Account book for <i>Jenny Greenbank</i> (Schooner), 1881-83 and log-book for <i>Luella A. Snow</i> (Schooner), 1883